(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh and National Textile Corporation have reached a Memorandum of Understanding for modernisation of Ajamjahi Mills, establishment a new spinning mill at Hyderabad and modernisation of four spinning mills under the control of National Textile Corporation in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). a proposal envisaging signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Government of Andhra Pradesh and National Textile Corporation for revival of NTC mills was considered by the Government of India. It was viewed that modernisation of NTC mills has to be done on the basis of specific project proposals with support from the Financial Institutions. It was also felt that the package of financial requirements and concessions etc. will be drawn up on unit–by–unit basis and only such unit–wise Memorandum of Understanding would be entered into if found feasible and essential. In view of this, it was decided that the stage for a Memorandum of Understanding proposed to be signed between NTC and Government of Andhra Pradesh has not yet been reached.

Complaints about rigging the elections

2512. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have received any complaints about rigging in the recent elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent rigging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Though the Government as such has not received any complaints directly, there appear to be some complaints made to other agencies about rigging in the recent elections. The information will be collected and placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The steps to be taken by the Government to prevent rigging in elections will b a part of the indepth study with reference to electoral reforms which the Government intends to take up soon.

[*Translation*)

Selling of Janata Cloth in Rajasthan

2513. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janata Cloth is being sold in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of cloth varieties and the agencies through which such cloth is being sold there;

(c) whether a number of complaints of irregularities and bunglings have been received by the Government in the sale of Janata cloth;

(d) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.